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United States Attorney
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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CORRECTED RELEASE**FORMER LAW FIRM OFFICE MANAGER SENTENCED TO PRISON**

WICHITA, Kan. – The former office manager of a Wichita law firm was sentenced on October 8, 2003, to **27 months (not 30 months as previously released)** in federal prison without parole and ordered to pay \$343,000 in restitution, United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced. **Shirley M. Wilson**, 52, who worked as office manager at McDonald, Tinker, Skaer, Quinn & Herrington from 1997 until her arrest on December 16, 2002, pled guilty July 2, 2003, to wire fraud before U.S. District Judge J. Thomas Marten, who sentenced Wilson today.

Wilson admitted that she made nearly \$200,000 worth of credit card purchases using the firm's credit card accounts, Melgren said. Most of the fraudulent charges were for the purchase of jewelry over the internet, he said, which constitutes federal wire fraud.

Wilson also acknowledged embezzling another \$143,000 through forgery of firm checks and overpayment of salary and benefits. She used the name of her daughter, Sara L. Wilson, while working at the firm. Wilson remains in custody pending a designation by the federal Bureau of Prisons of the institution where Wilson will be incarcerated. Her prison sentence is to be followed by three years of supervised release.

The case was investigated by the U.S. Secret Service and the Wichita Police Department and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Brent Anderson.

